

Naxalite Activities

387. **SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing Naxalite activities in the country.

(b) if so, the details of the areas affected by Naxalite problem and the causes thereof;

(c) whether any, State Government(s) have sought the assistance of the Union Government to curb the Naxalism; and

(d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Andhra Pradesh and Bihar are the worst affected states by naxalite activities. The left wing extremists have pockets of influence in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Although it may not be possible to pin-point the exact causes for the growth of naxalism in the country, the economic backwardness, unemployment and the resultant dissatisfaction among a section of the youth could be an influencing factor. A request was recently received from the State Government of Orissa for financial assistance for the socio-economic development of the left wing extremist affected areas in the State. This was examined in consultation with the Planning Commission and the State Government was subsequently advised to meet the cost of implementing the plan from their normal plan outlay as approved and finalised by the Planning Commission. Similarly, requests were received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for additional para-military

forces and weapons. A few companies of Central para-military forces and weapons have been provided to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. The policy of the Government is to deal firmly with the extremist elements in the country and simultaneously step up socio-economic development in the affected areas to redress the genuine grievances of the local people. The Central government is rendering all possible assistance to the affected States.

Delay in Ratifying U.N. Convention

388. **SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAI-PAYEE.** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in ratifying the U.N. convention on the rights of the child;

(b) the steps taken to expedite ratification; and

(c) the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAV-SINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The ratification process involves extensive consultations with different Ministries of the Government. These are expected to be completed shortly.

12.02 hrs.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You don't want to keep quiet. Please take your seats. Mr. Basu Deb Acharia, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)